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10/077,564		02/15/2002	Jean-Louis Droulin	SAA-76	3306
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Art Unit: 3629

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. As to claims 1 and 6, there is no explanation as to how to promote the visual impression in such a way as to create a mental impression.

Claims 2-5 and 7-10 are rejected as depending from a rejected claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention lacks patentable utility. The limitations as claimed in claims 1 and 6 do not produce a useful process, machine, manufacture or composition of matter. Further, the results are intangible as they are drawn toward influencing perceptions and this is not concrete and tangible.

Claims 2-5 and 7-10 are rejected as depending from a rejected claim.

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham* v. *John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

- 1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
- 2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
- 3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
- 4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over USAF Eyes Locaas As F-22 Munition by Proctor (Proctor).

Note: All page and line numbers are as provided and not as first published.

As to claims 1 and 6, Proctor discloses displaying compatible devices (pg 2, "Special Feature:" section labeled "Photograph") that are operatively connected (as they are aspects of a single airplane). This would promote the visual impression as indicative of compatibility as the parts are disclosed as working together.

Proctor does not, however, teach housing the display in transparent housings.

The examiner takes Official Notice that it is well known in the art to house displays in transparent housings (such as dioramas). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one

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of ordinary skill in the art to create such a display with a transparent housing to allow the display to be moved without requiring a computer set-up.

As to claims 2 and 7, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to tint the glass for aesthetic purposes.

As to claims 3 and 8, the color of the tint is a matter of aesthetics and would not be patentably distinct.

As to claims 4 and 9, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have affixed a placard (non-transparent portion) with the name of the airplane and descriptions of the various working parts.

Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US PAT 2,065,689 to Goethe.

As to claims 1 and 6, Goethe discloses housing devices in a display (fig 1), operatively connecting the devices (farm machinery), promoting the visual impression as indicative of compatibility that creates a mental impression (as they are all farm equipment they would necessarily be compatible else the farm would fail).

Goethe does not, however, teach a transparent housing. Goethe does teach a viewing portion without transparent housing. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide a transparent, front panel to keep viewers from touching the machinery therein.

As to claims 2 and 7, Goethe teaches a means for producing colored lighting effects (lines 10-13). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use a tinted front screen as Goethe teaches tinting the lighting of the machinery.

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As to claims 3 and 8, the color of the tinting is a matter of aesthetics and would not be patentably distinct.

As to claims 4 and 9, Goethe discloses the housing as having a see-through part (between frame members 5), and a non-transparent, front, face-plate (40).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. US PAT 5,015,189 to Wenziger, Jr. discloses a housing with transparent facing for viewing machinery.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael J. Fisher whose telephone number is 571-272-6804. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. 7:30am-5:00pm alt Fri. off.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Michael J. Fisher

Patent Examiner GAU 3629

12/9/05